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IDS
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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of:)
Christoph HECKENKAMP *et al.*) Group Art Unit: 2872
Serial Number: 09/023,430) Examiner: J. Henry
Filed: February 13, 1998)

10978 U.S. PTO
09/982194
10/19/01

For: Data Carrier having An Optically Variable Element And Methods For Producing It

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to Rule 37 C.F.R. §1.51(b), §1.56, §1.97, and §1.98, this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in the above-identified patent application. A listing of documents to be published on the face of any patent granted from this application is submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449. Any other documents or information submitted for consideration by the Examiner are listed in this paper. A copy of each U.S. and foreign patent, or each publication or portion thereof listed or herein identified is submitted herewith, except that a copy of any U.S. patent application identified herein or any patent, publication or other information listed herein cited or submitted in a prior application relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120 and identified below, is not submitted herewith.

CONCISE STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY
(Non-English Language Documents Only)

EP 0 253 089 discloses a data carrier having a holographic diffraction structure integrated into the layer structure of the data carrier itself. The data carrier consists of two plastic layers 1, 2 which are interconnected and enclosed in the border area of the diffraction structure in the form of microrelief 3. However, in order to permit observation of the diffraction structure in reflected light, microrelief 3 is additionally provided with reflective immediate layer 4. This results in poor connection with the document layers, so the intermediate layer 4 is provided with gaps 5 through which the document layers

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can contact each other and interconnect firmly upon lamination. The intermediate layer can thus be applied in the form of a sign, signature, or the like. This granted patent application only concerns visually visible effects. Hidden, machine-readable coding is not mentioned.

French Patent Publication discloses ID cards as a holograph and an embossed area that runs into the hologram area.

German Patent Publication DE 34 42 794 describes a method for coding information in which the coded information is imaged holographically and recorded so that it appears at certain angles upon readout.

It is noted that all of the references cited in this Information Disclosure Statement were cited in, or are equivalent to references cited in, either a European opposition procedure or a German opposition procedure, or were cited in the parent application, and that all of the references cited in the European and German oppositions are believed to be cumulative or relevant only as background, and not to specific claims of the present application.

STATEMENT REGARDING TRANSLATIONS

Aside from the English language abstracts, translation of the German and French language documents are not readily available.

CERTIFICATION

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted within three months of (i) the filing date of the above-identified U.S. National Patent application, or (ii) the date of entry into the U.S. National Stage of the above-identified International Application, or (iii) the date of entry into the U.S. National Stage of the International Application that has been assigned the above-identified U.S. Patent application number, whichever applies.

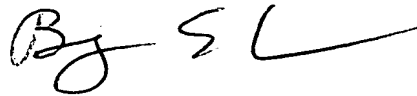
The Examiner is requested to acknowledge consideration of the information provided in this paper in accordance with prescribed procedures.

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Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 02-0200. A duplicate copy is enclosed for use by the Finance Office.

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'By SL', is written over the printed name of Benjamin E. Urcia.

By: BENJAMIN E. URCIA
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Date: October 18, 2001

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